

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) Apparatus comprising:

a flexible structure configured to enclose and carry at least one cable, said structure comprising textile material formed in such a way as to define at least one longitudinal channel configured to enclose and carry a cable;

said textile material having warp yarns ~~formed of~~ comprising polyester and having fill yarns ~~formed of~~ comprising nylon; and

means for pulling a cable into said structure.

2. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 1, wherein said pulling means extends longitudinally through said channel, and is selected from the group consisting of tape or rope.

3. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 2, wherein said textile material and said pull tape or rope have respective values of elongation percentage that are substantially equal for a given tensile load.

4. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 1, wherein said textile material is a woven fabric.

5. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 1, wherein said yarns have a denier in the range of 200-1000 denier.

6. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 1, wherein said structure is formed from a single sheet of said textile material.

7. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 1, wherein said structure is resiliently biased toward an open channel configuration and is also readily collapsible in a transverse direction.

8. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 1, wherein said structure is disposed within a conduit.

9. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 8, wherein a cable is disposed within said structure.

10. (Original) Apparatus comprising:
a conduit;
a flexible structure disposed within said conduit;
said flexible structure configured to enclose and carry at least one cable, said structure comprising woven textile material formed in such a way as to define at least one longitudinal channel configured to enclose and carry a cable;
said textile material having warp yarns formed of polyester in the range of 200 to 1000 denier;
said textile material having fill yarns formed of nylon in the range of 200 to 1000 denier; and

means for pulling a cable into said structure.

11. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 10, wherein said flexible structure is formed from a single sheet of woven textile material.

12. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 10, wherein said pulling means extends longitudinally through said channel, and is selected from the group consisting of tape or rope.

13. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 12, wherein said woven textile material and said pull tape or rope have respective values of elongation percentage that are substantially equal for a given tensile load.

14. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 10, wherein said structure is resiliently biased toward an open channel configuration and is also readily collapsible in a transverse direction.

15. (Original) Apparatus comprising:
a flexible structure configured to enclose and carry at least one cable, said structure comprising a single sheet of textile material formed in such a way as to define at least one longitudinal channel configured to enclose and carry a cable; and
means for pulling a cable into said structure.

16. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 15, wherein said pulling means extends longitudinally through said channel, and is selected from the group consisting of tape or rope.
17. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 16, wherein said textile material and said pull tape or rope have respective values of elongation percentage that are substantially equal for a given tensile load.
18. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 15, wherein said flexible structure is disposed within a conduit.
19. (Original) Apparatus comprising:
a conduit;
at least two separate flexible structures disposed within said conduit;
each said flexible structure comprising textile material formed in such a way as to define at least one longitudinal channel configured to enclose and carry a cable.
20. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 19, further comprising means for pulling a cable into at least one of said structures.
21. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 20, wherein said pulling means is a pull tape or rope.

22. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 21, wherein said pull tape or rope and said textile material exhibit values of elongation percentage that are substantially equal for a given tensile load.
23. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein said textile material has a melting temperature of at least about 220 degrees C.
24. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein said textile material is a woven fabric.
25. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 24, wherein said woven textile material includes monofilament yarns.
26. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 25, wherein said monofilament yarns have a denier in the range of 200-1000 denier.
27. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein a cable extends longitudinally through at least one of said channels, said cable having an outer sheath that has a first melting temperature, and said textile material having a second melting temperature not lower than said first melting temperature.

28. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein at least one of said flexible structures is formed in such a way as to define at least two longitudinal channels, each configured to enclose and carry a cable.
29. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein said textile material has a transversely directed crimp resistance recovery angle within a range of about 50 degrees to about 130 degrees.
30. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein said textile material is a fabric made from yarns selected from the group consisting of polyester, nylon and combinations thereof.
31. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 30, wherein said fabric comprises warp yarns formed of polyester and having fill yarns formed of nylon.
32. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein said textile material exhibits a longitudinal tensile strength of at least about 12.5 pounds per inch of width.
33. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein said textile material has a longitudinal tensile strength within the range of about 12.5 pounds per inch of width to about 300 pounds per inch of width.

34. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein said textile material exhibits an elongation percentage of not greater than about 75 percent at a peak tensile load.
35. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein said textile material exhibits an elongation percentage of not greater than about 40 percent at peak tensile load.
36. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein said textile material exhibits an elongation percentage of not greater than about 25 percent at peak tensile load.
37. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein at least one of said flexible structures is resiliently biased toward an open channel configuration and is also readily collapsible in a transverse direction.
38. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein said textile material has a coefficient of friction, based on high density polyethylene on said material with a longitudinal line of action, below about 0.1250.
39. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein said textile material is selected so that a 0.25 inch diameter polypropylene rope will not burn through a test

sample of said structure when pulled through said test sample in a pull line duct cutting test at 100 feet per minute and 450 pounds tension for at least 90 seconds.

40. (Original) The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein at least one of said structures is formed from a single sheet of said textile material.

41. (New) Apparatus comprising:
a flexible structure configured to enclose and carry at least one cable, said structure comprising a single sheet of textile material formed in such a way as to define at least one longitudinal channel;

wherein said single sheet of textile material is joined so that one longitudinal edge of said textile material is folded over a second longitudinal edge of said textile material and attached thereto.

42. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 41, further including means for pulling a cable into said structure.

43. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 42, wherein said pulling means is selected from the group consisting of tape or rope.

44. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 43, wherein said textile material and said pull tape or rope have respective values of elongation percentage that are substantially equal for a given tensile load.

45. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 41, wherein said textile material is a woven fabric.
46. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 41, wherein said textile material includes yarns have a denier in the range of 200-1000 denier.
47. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 41, wherein said textile material includes polyester and nylon yarns.
48. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 41, wherein said structure is resiliently biased toward an open channel configuration and is also readily collapsible in a transverse direction.
49. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 41, wherein said structure is disposed within a conduit.
50. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 49, wherein a cable is disposed within said structure.
51. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 41, wherein said textile material has a melting temperature of at least about 220 degrees C.

52. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 45, wherein said woven textile material includes monofilament yarns.
53. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 52, wherein said monofilament yarns have a denier in the range of 200-1000 denier.
54. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 41, wherein a cable extends longitudinally through said channel, said cable having an outer sheath that has a first melting temperature, and said textile material having a second melting temperature not lower than said first melting temperature.
55. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 41, wherein said textile material has a transversely directed crimp resistance recovery angle within a range of about 50 degrees to about 130 degrees.
56. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 41, wherein said textile material is a fabric made from yarns selected from the group consisting of polyester, nylon and combinations thereof.
57. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 56, wherein said fabric comprises warp yarns formed of polyester and having fill yarns formed of nylon.

58. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 41, wherein said textile material exhibits a longitudinal tensile strength of at least about 12.5 pounds per inch of width.
59. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 41, wherein said textile material has a longitudinal tensile strength within the range of about 12.5 pounds per inch of width to about 300 pounds per inch of width.
60. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 41, wherein said textile material exhibits an elongation percentage of not greater than about 75 percent at a peak tensile load.
61. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 60, wherein said textile material exhibits an elongation percentage of not greater than about 40 percent at peak tensile load.
- 62 (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 61, wherein said textile material exhibits an elongation percentage of not greater than about 25 percent at peak tensile load.
63. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 41, wherein said flexible structure is resiliently biased toward an open channel configuration and is also readily collapsible in a transverse direction.

64. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 41, wherein said textile material has a coefficient of friction, based on high density polyethylene on said material with a longitudinal line of action, below about 0.1250.
65. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 41, wherein said textile material is selected so that a 0.25 inch diameter polypropylene rope will not burn through a test sample of said structure when pulled through said test sample in a pull line duct cutting test at 100 feet per minute and 450 pounds tension for at least 90 seconds.
66. (New) Apparatus comprising:
a flexible insert for cable conduits made of flexible material formed in such a way as to define at least one longitudinal channel;
wherein said flexible material exhibits elongation of not more than 40 percent at peak tensile load; and
wherein said flexible material has a longitudinal tensile strength of at least about 12.5 pounds per inch of width.
67. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 66, further comprising means for pulling a cable into said insert.
68. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 67, wherein said pulling means is selected from the group consisting of tape or rope.

69. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 66, wherein said flexible material has a melting temperature of at least about 220 degrees C.

70. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 66, wherein said flexible material is a woven fabric.

71. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 70, wherein said woven fabric includes monofilament yarns.

72. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 71, wherein said monofilament yarns have a denier in the range of 200-1000 denier.

73. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 66, wherein a cable extends longitudinally through said channel, said cable having an outer sheath that has a first melting temperature, and said flexible material having a second melting temperature not lower than said first melting temperature.

74. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 66, wherein said flexible material is formed in such a way as to define at least two longitudinal channels, each configured to enclose and carry a cable.

75. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 66, wherein said flexible material has a transversely directed crimp resistance recovery angle within a range of about 50 degrees to about 130 degrees.
76. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 66, wherein said flexible material is a fabric having warp yarns comprising polyester and having fill yarns comprising nylon.
77. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 66, wherein said flexible material exhibits an elongation percentage of not greater than about 75 percent at a peak tensile load.
78. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 66, wherein said structure is resiliently biased toward an open channel configuration and is also readily collapsible in a transverse direction.
79. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 66, wherein said flexible material has a coefficient of friction, based on high density polyethylene on said material with a longitudinal line of action, below about 0.1250.
80. (New) The apparatus set forth in claim 66, wherein said flexible material is selected so that a 0.25 inch diameter polypropylene rope will not burn through a test

sample of said structure when pulled through said test sample in a pull line duct cutting test at 100 feet per minute and 450 pounds tension for at least 90 seconds.

81. (New) A method for dividing a conduit into multiple channels, said method comprising the steps of:

providing an innerduct structure formed from flexible material in such a way as to define at least one longitudinal channel;

blowing said innerduct structure into a conduit using pneumatic pressure; and
positioning a cable within said innerduct structure.

82. (New) The method set forth in claim 81, wherein said flexible material is impervious to air.

83. (New) The method set forth in claim 81, wherein said cable includes a sheathing material having a first melting temperature, and wherein said flexible material has a second melting temperature not lower than said first melting temperature.

84. (New) The method set forth in claim 81, wherein said positioning step includes using a pull tape or pull rope attached to said cable to pull said cable into said innerduct structure.

85. (New) The method set forth in claim 81, including the step of forming said innerduct structure from a single sheet of said flexible material.

86. (New) The method set forth in claim 81, including the step of forming said flexible material by weaving monofilament yarns together to form a woven textile fabric.
87. (New) The method set forth in claim 86, wherein said monofilament yarns comprise polyester in the warp direction and nylon in the fill direction.
88. (New) The method set forth in claim 86, wherein said monofilament yarns have a denier in the range of 200-1000 denier.
89. (New) The method set forth in claim 81, further comprising the step of forming said flexible material from a woven fabric having an impervious barrier layer to prevent air from flowing through said flexible material.
90. (New) A method of dividing a longitudinally extending conduit, said method comprising the steps of:
- providing at least one flexible innerduct structure made from a single sheet of flexible material, said innerduct structure being configured to enclose and carry at least one cable;
 - inserting said at least one flexible innerduct structure into a conduit; and
 - inserting at least one cable into said flexible innerduct structure.

91. (New) The method set forth in claim 90, further comprising the step of inserting a plurality of flexible innerduct structures into said conduit.
92. (New) The method set forth in claim 90, further comprising the step of providing means for pulling said cable into said flexible innerduct structure.
93. (New) The method set forth in claim 92, wherein said means for pulling said cable into said flexible innerduct structure is selected from the group consisting of tape or rope.
94. (New) The method set forth in claim 90, wherein said flexible innerduct structure includes a plurality of longitudinal channels.
95. (New) The method set forth in claim 90, including the step of forming said flexible material by weaving monofilament yarns together to form a woven textile fabric.
96. (New) The method set forth in claim 95, wherein said monofilament yarns comprise polyester in the warp direction and nylon in the fill direction.
97. (New) The method set forth in claim 96, wherein said monofilament yarns have a denier in the range of 200-1000 denier.

98. (New) The method set forth in claim 90, further including the step of forming said flexible innerduct structure to be resiliently biased toward an open position, and which may be readily flattened.
99. (New) The method set forth in claim 90, further including the step of selecting said flexible material so that it has a higher melting temperature than any sheathing disposed on an outer portion of said cable.
100. (New) The method set forth in claim 90, wherein said step of inserting said flexible innerduct into said conduit includes the step of using pneumatic pressure to blow said flexible innerduct into said conduit.
101. (New) The method set forth in claim 90, wherein said flexible material exhibits an elongation percentage of not greater than about 75 percent at a peak tensile load.
102. (New) The method set forth in claim 90, wherein said flexible material exhibits an elongation percentage of not greater than about 40 percent at peak tensile load.
103. (New) The method set forth in claim 90, wherein said flexible material exhibits an elongation percentage of not greater than about 25 percent at peak tensile load.

104. (New) The method set forth in claim 90, wherein said flexible material has a transversely directed crimp resistance recovery angle within a range of about 50 degrees to about 130 degrees.
105. (New) The method set forth in claim 90, wherein said flexible material is a flexible woven fabric comprising warp yarns that together provide said woven fabric with a first crimp recovery angle and fill yarns that together provide said woven fabric with a second, greater crimp recovery angle.
106. (New) The method set forth in claim 90, wherein said flexible material is selected so that a 0.25 inch diameter polypropylene rope will not burn through a test sample of said flexible innerduct when pulled through said test sample in a pull line duct cutting test at 100 feet per minute and 450 pounds tension for at least 90 seconds.
107. (New) The method set forth in claim 90, wherein said flexible material has a melting temperature of at least about 220 degrees C.
108. (New) The method set forth in claim 90, wherein said flexible material has a coefficient of friction, based on high density polyethylene on said material with a longitudinal line of action, below about 0.1250.